

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

ACDA-19 NIC-01 OMB-01 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 COME-00

EB-11 AF-10 EA-11 DRC-01 /150 W

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P R 151815Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 196

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USIA

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8. CATHOLIC "HET BELANG VAN LIMBURG" OF MARCH 15 COMMENTS:

"IT CAN BE DEDUCED THAT NEITHER KISSINGER NOR AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IN GENERAL IS OPPOSED TO EUROPEAN UNIFICATION. THIS ATTITUDE HAS BEEN FREQUENTLY ENOUGH REAFFIRMED. WHEN KISSINGER SPOKE OF A UNITED EUROPE, HE HAD IN MIND -- AND THIS IS NOW BECOMING VERY CLEAR -- A EUROPE THAT WOULD FOLLOW AMERICAN VIEWS IN EVERYTHING. THIS, HOWEVER, IS NOT ALWAYS POSSIBLE IN THE CONTEXT OF COOPERATION AND DIALOGUE.. IT CAN CREATE A CERTAIN SURPRISE THAT A MAN LIKE KISSINGER, OF GERMAN ORIGIN -- SOMEBODY WITH GREAT DIPLOMATIC PERSPICACITY-- ' DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE FINE NOSE FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS', AS A FORMER US AMBASSADOR PUT IT. "

9. IN EDITORIAL ON WHAT IT TERMS THE "NERVE WAR BETWEEN AMERICANS AND A NUMBER OF EUROPEAN CAPITALS", SOCIALIST "VOLKSGAZET" OF MARCH 15 CHARGES THE SECRETARY ONLY WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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INDISCRETION AND CONDEMNS HIS CRITICS, JEAN REY IN PARTICULAR:

"THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE MAY HAVE BEHAVED IMPRUDENTLY. GOODNESS KNOWS WHO PUT IT INTO HIS HEAD TO TALK CONFIDENTIALLY TO A GROUP OF WIVES OF CONGRESSMEN WHEN THOSE LADIES COULD EASILY PARTICIPATE IN A GOSSIP CHAMPIONSHIP.

'DEAR HENRY' IS CERTAINLY A GOOD DIPLOMAT, BUT HE STILL HAS SOMETHING TO LEARN AS A CONNOISSEUR OF WOMEN. IN A CLOSED CIRCLE, WHERE HIS WORDS WERE NOT MEANT FOR PUBLICATION, HE LET HIMSELF GO A LITTLE BIT. IT IS NOT A CRIME. IT IS NOT A REASON EITHER TO HAVE HIM ATTACKED BY PEOPLE WHO WOULD DO BETTER TO REMAIN IN THEIR CORNER AND LET THE SHADOW OF OBLIGATION FALL ON THEM". PAPER REFERS TO FORMER EEC PRESIDENT JEAN REY, "LIBERAL AND ADVOCATE OF LAISSER FAIRE, WHO EXERCISED HIS FUNCTION IN THE EEC FOR MORE THAN TEN YEARS. ONE HAS ONLY TO SEE IN WHAT SHAPE HE LEFT BEHIND THE CONSTRUCTION. MORE DOES NOT HAVE TO BE SAID IN THIS REGARD."

10. MARCH 16 EDITION OF LARGE-CIRCULATION "LE SOIR" CARRIES FRONT-PAGE PICTURE OF SECRETARY WITH AN ARTICLE HEADLINED: "MR. KISSINGER REGRETS THE INTERPRETATION OF HIS STATEMENTS ON EUROPE". THE STORY CLAIMS THAT THE SECRETARY EXPRESSED HIS REGRETS TO JOURNALISTS "AFTER HAVING MET AT LENGTH WITH PRESIDENT NIXON", AND THEN GIVES AN ACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF SECRETARY'S CLARIFYING REMARKS.

11. SOCIALIST "LE PEUPLE" OF MARCH 15 CARRIES STRAIGHT REPORT OF SECRETARY'S CLARIFYING REMARKS TO NEWSMEN ON MARCH 14, STRESSING HIS REGRETS OVER HIS EARLIER COMMENTS CONCERNING THE LEGITIMACY OF EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS. RTB (FRENCH LANGUAGE RADIO) COMMENTATOR ON MARCH 15 WELCOMED THE SECRETARY'S EXPRESSION OF REGRETS BUT THEN RETURNED TO RTB FORM, REPORTING THE SECRETARY'S QUIP ABOUT HAVING CONTRIBUTED MORE TO EUROPEAN UNITY THAN ANYONE SINCE JEAN MONNET AS IF IT WERE SAID IN EARNEST AND THEN SOLEMNLY REMINDING LISTENERS OF THE KEY ROLE MONNET HAD PLAYED.
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